

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 13351 280604Z

15

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 AID-10 SNM-02 L-02 PM-03

DEAE-00 MC-02 RSR-01 /069 W
----- 068852

P 271224Z AUG 73 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6039
INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 13351

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TH, BM, LA

SUBJECT: GUNS-FOR-NARCOTICS TRADING IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

REF: A. STATE 156066

B. RANGOON 1893

1. WE HAVE FREQUENTLY REVIEWED WITH THE RTG PROCEDURES OF THE ROYAL THAI ARMY (RTA) AND THE THAI NATIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT (TNPd) FOR CONTROLLING WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF ANY UNACCOUNTABLE LOSS OF RTA OR TNPd WEAPONS.

2. SMUGGLED WEAPONS DISCOVERED IN THAILAND HAVE USUALLY ORIGINATED FROM LAOS. THE TNPd HAS BEEN COOPERATIVE IN PROVIDING US WITH THE SERIAL NUMBERS OF THESE WEAPONS FOR TRACING.

3. COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: THE DEPARTMENT MADE TWO SUGGESTIONS IN REFTel A: THAT WE REVIEW WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS EXISTING PROCEDURES FOR CONTROLLING AND ACCOUNTING FOR MILITARY AND POLICE WEAPONS, AND THAT WE EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 13351 280604Z

OF FOSTERING ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED FOR

SYSTEMATIC IDENTIFICATION AND TRACING OF CERTAIN WEAPONS THE BURMA ARMY HAD CAPTURED. IN VIEW OF OUR CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH THE RTG ON WEAPONS CONTROL, AND RTG COOPERATION WITH US ON THIS ISSUE, WE SEE NO NEED IN THAILAND FOR THE SUGGESTED REVIEW. IN REGARD TO FOSTERING LOCAL INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, WE SUGGEST--GIVEN THE STATEMENT IN REFTEL B THAT THE GUB HAS NEVER LET EMBASSY RANGOON KNOW THE SERIAL NUMBERS OF THE CAPTURED WEAPONS--THAT IT MIGHT BE BETTER FOR RANGOON TO RECOMMEND THAT THE GUB APPROACH THE RTG DIRECTLY ON THIS ISSUE. IF THE GUB WILL SUPPLY THE SERIAL NUMBERS OF WEAPONS CAPTURED FROM BURMESE DISSIDENTS, WE BELIEVE THE TNPD WOULD COOPERATE IN HELPING TO TRACE THEIR ORIGIN IF THEY ARE FROM THAILAND.

4. TO PAVE THE WAY FOR POSSIBLE APPROACH BY GUB, DCM DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT AUGUST 27 WITH DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF OF SUPREME COMMAND KRIANGSAK AND SOLICITED HIS SUPPORT IN FURTHER EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT BETTER COOPERATION AMONG THAILAND, LAOS AND BURMA TO CURB TRADE IN ILLEGAL ARMS. DCM SUGGESTED, IN WAKE IMPROVED THAI RELATIONS WITH BURMA, THAT THIS WOULD BE GOOD TIME FOR CONCERTED RTG-GUB CAMPAIGN TO PUT END TO TRAFFIC WHICH CAUSED DIFFICULTIES FOR BOTH COUNTRIES. KRIANGSAK AGREED, BUT NOTED THAT BULK OF WEAPONS ENTERING BURMA ILLEGALLY COME FROM LAOS, NOT THAILAND. HE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT MOST CROSS THAI TERRITORY, THOUGH RTG WOULD NOT HAVE SERIAL NUMBERS AVAILABLE FOR CHECKING ORIGIN.

5. KRIANGSAK MENTIONED ALSO THAT HE WAS HAVING LUNCH HERE AUGUST 29 WITH BURMESE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE TIN OO, WHO WOULD BE TRANSITING THAILAND EN ROUTE TO MALAYSIA. IF TIME PERMITS APPROACH TO HIM AND IF TIN OO SEEMS APPROPRIATE CHANNEL, THIS MIGHT BE GOOD WAY TO GET RTG-GUB DIALOGUE UNDER WAY.

6. WE ARE PLACING THE GUNS-FOR-NARCOTICS TOPIC ON THE AGENDA FOR THE SEPTEMBER 18-20 TRI-COUNTRY NARCOTICS MEETING IN BANGKOK.
UNGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, ARMS SMUGGLING, GUN CONTROL, POLICE FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO13351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS UNGER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730814/aaaaakfl.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: A. STATE 156066
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <27-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUNS-FOR-NARCOTICS TRADING IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE
TAGS: SNAR, PARM, TH, BM, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005